

*Opisthocosmia forcipata*, de Haan, var.

I have six females of a curious variety of this species, in which the head and pronotum, instead of being dark fuscous, are of a clear red. I can find no other points of distinction, and do not consider it of specific rank. These specimens all came from Sapit and Sambalun in Lombok; I have specimens of the type form from Southern Celebes and not from Lombok, but have no specimens of this variety from other localities.

*O. forcipata* is taken in Sumatra.

Bellagio, East Grinstead.

July 25, 1897.

XXXIV.—*On a Collection of small Mammals from Uganda.*

By W. E. DE WINTON.

MR. OLDFIELD THOMAS has entrusted me with the working out of some small mammals collected at Ntebe or Entebbi in Uganda, on the north-western shore of the Victoria Nyanza, by Mr. F. J. Jackson, to whom we are already so much indebted for our knowledge of the several faunas of East Africa. This collection was made about two years ago, but seems to have been mislaid and overlooked by the collector; some of the specimens consequently have been badly damaged by beetles, but the majority are in excellent preservation, and among them are found two species of mice hitherto undescribed.

While working out this collection a specimen of *Arvicanthis* which has long been in the British Museum is found to require a name, and this opportunity is taken of publishing the description, as the locality from which it was obtained is not very far distant.

The bats, with one exception, belong to species to be expected from this district, but, so far, very little collecting has been done on the western side of the lake, so that every specimen is of great interest, no account of the small mammals found there having yet been published.

1. *Rhinolophus Hildebrandti*, Peters.

Four specimens.

2. *Hipposiderus caffer* (Sundev.).

Five specimens in various colours as usual, with which age, sex, or season seem to have no connexion.

3. *Vesperugo tenuipinnis* (Peters).

Two specimens.

4. *Chalinolobus variegatus* (Tomes).

One. Without having seen the type of this species, which is in the Berlin Museum, the identification of this specimen must be somewhat uncertain; but, if correctly determined, it is of great interest, as this pretty butterfly-bat has hitherto only been obtained in S.W. Africa (Otjoro, Damaraland). At the same time there is no reason why the two should not be identical. No. 2 in this list is a good example of an even more extended range and preservation of all its peculiar colour-varieties throughout.

5. *Scotophilus nigrita* (Schreb.).

One.

6. *Crocidura*, sp.

Ad. male and juv. Appears to be closely allied to *C. Martensii*, Dobs., from the Cape.

7. *Sciurus Boehmi*, Reichen.

Male and female. The loss of one or more vertebræ of the tail seems to be very common among the small squirrels of E. Africa, but the total length does not seem to suffer, as the hairs grow in proportion; in one of these specimens the hairs at the end of the tail (there appear to be three or four vertebræ missing) is 65 millim. in length.

8. *Mus ugandæ*, sp. n.

Size rather larger than *M. sylvaticus*. The whole of the upper parts finely grizzled slate-black, there being very little fawn tinge intermixed; this latter colour is more distinct on the sides of the neck. The sides, and especially the thighs, are rather more grey. The whole of the underparts are clear pale fawn, including the lower cheeks and upper lips. The hands and feet pale fawn. Underfur of all parts dark slate. Ears and tail naked, dark blackish brown. The colouring of the upper parts of this mouse is not very unlike the darkest plumbeous pelage of the immature *Mus sylvaticus*, but still darker. The tail is not very attenuated, being of about the same proportion as that of *M. musculus*. The feet are large and broad.

Measurements of type, ♂, Ntebe, 4. 6. 95 (*F. J. J.*):—Head and body 102 millim.; tail 90; hind foot 25.5; ear 18.

There are five specimens of this mouse in the collection.

Skull: greatest length 27.5 millim.; greatest breadth 13; breadth of brain-case 12.1; interorb. constr. 4; nasals 10.2 × 3.5; interparietal 3.3 × 8.5; basal length 24.2; hensenion to back of palate 12; palatal foramina 6.5 × 2; molar series 5; outside <sup>ms. 1</sup> 6, inside 3; diastema 7.3; mandible-bone only, greatest length 15, height 7.5.

Colour of incisors orange above, honey-coloured below.

The type is a somewhat young specimen, the skulls of older individuals reaching about 2 millim. more in total length.

The nearest ally of this mouse is *Mus erythroleucus*, from West Africa; though outwardly differing in colour, the skull shows close affinities.

There is one female in the collection, but unfortunately the mammæ are not traceable; but, judging from the strong likeness in the skulls, there is little doubt that, like its ally, this new mouse is of the multimammate group. It will bear the name of the country in which it is found.

#### 9. *Mus Jacksoni*, sp. n.

Pelage composed solely of soft fur; the whole of the upper parts smoky brown, showing a little more golden on the cheeks and sides; underparts grey. All the hairs of the body are slate-coloured for the greater part of their length, only the extreme tips being coloured, those above with brown and those beneath with white. Ears dark, naked, and very long. Tail much longer than the head and body, thin, naked, and unicoloured brown. Feet and hands very long, greyish.

Measurements, taken from dried skin: type, ♂, Entebbi (Ntebe), 10. 2. 95:—Head and body 78 millim.; tail 118; hind foot 22; ear 14.

Skull (base broken): point of nasals to lambda 22 millim.; greatest breadth 11·5, of brain-case 11; nasals 9; basal length 22; hensenion to back of palate 11·5; palatal foramina 6×2; outside <sup>ms. 1</sup> 6, inside <sup>ms. 1</sup> 3; molar series 4·6; diastema 7.

Molars large, all well developed, last two together fully as long as first.

The length of the ears, tail, and hind feet at once distinguishes this species from all its congeners; it is, indeed, both in colour and shape, strikingly like a diminutive *Malacomys longipes*, and I know no true *Mus* to which it is at all nearly allied. I name it in honour of the collector.

It is highly probable that this mouse may prove to be identical with Dr. Noack's *Mystromys longicaudatus* (Zool. Jahrb. ii. p. 246, 1887), which belongs undoubtedly to the genus *Mus*, as is shown by the figures given of its skull and teeth. This being the case, the specific name need not be considered, as it is already occupied.

#### 10. *Arvicanthis Spekei*, sp. n.

In coloration and general pattern of the markings re-

sembling *A. barbarus*, L., but blacker in tone and the stripes narrower. Central dorsal stripe black-brown; the region on either side, extending over two dark and two light stripes, strongly washed with brown; outside of this space the dark stripes are black, with a few light-coloured hairs intermixed, the light stripes buff-white, every second one being rather more conspicuous; the stripes get rather more broken nearing the belly. All the underparts buff-white. The ears are well clothed with brown hairs, but do not show nearly so much rufous as those of *A. barbarus*; the tail, which is also well covered with hair, is black along the middle line, inclining to rufous on the sides and buff-white beneath. Feet buff-white, claws brown.

Type 63. 7. 7. 23 in the British Museum; collected by Capt. Speke in Unyamuezi.

Measurements taken from skin:—Head and body 120 millim.; tail (end broken); hind foot 23·5; ear 13.

Skull: greatest length 29; breadth across zygomata 14, across brain-case 12·5; nasals 11 × 3·5; interparietal 3 × 8; basal length 25; hensenion to back of palate 12·7; palatal foramina 5·1 × 2; upper molar series 5·3; outside <sup>ms. 1</sup> 6·5, inside <sup>ms. 1</sup> 3.

Incisors broad, orange above, rather paler below. Mandible (bone only), length 15·5, height at coronoid 9.

Compared with a mouse from Wadelai, which I take to be *A. zebra*, Heugl., the present species is larger, the stripes narrower and not so clearly defined; the size is intermediate between the Wadelai animal and *A. barbarus*, and therefore about equal to *A. pulchella*. The skull, compared with that of the last-named species, differs as follows:—narrower more pointed nasals, narrower interorbitally, profile more arched, smaller palatal foramina, molars rather more drawn out, incisors broader, the mandible has a deeper notch behind between the angle and the longer and more horizontal condyle.

The type and only specimen known is the animal mentioned by Gray (P. Z. S. 1864, p. 57) and by Sclater (id. p. 100) as being obtained by Capt. Speke, after whom I name the species.

The type of *Golunda pulchella*, which is still in the British Museum, is the common West-African species with spots, and not stripes; the plate (*t. c. xiii.*), stated to be taken from a West-African animal, is not in the least like that species, but is much more like the animal here described.

### 11. *Arvicanthus pulchellus*, Gray.

One. This specimen may be referred to Dr. Pagenstecher's

*A. barbarus*, var. *massaicus*; it has nothing to do with *A. barbarus*, but is very closely related to *A. pulchellus*.

12. *Arvicanthis abyssinicus*, Rüpp.

Six specimens of various ages.

13. *Leggada minutoides*, Sm.

One. This name is used for the smaller chestnut-brown form.

14. *Leggada musculoides*, Temm.

One. This name is used for the larger grey-brown form.

The two forms seem to be found side by side in various parts of Africa; but we must wait for more evidence before positively stating their relationship or otherwise.

XXXV.—*On a Collection of Rodents from Angola.*

By W. E. DE WINTON.

THROUGH the kindness of Prof. Barboza du Bocage, of the Lisbon Museum, I have been entrusted with the working out of a number of rodents from Angola to be ultimately presented to the British Museum. My primary object was to endeavour to explain the various forms of *Georychus* found in this region, our Museum being very well supplied with forms from other parts of Africa. The results of my work are given below, and it will be seen that the *Georychi* were not the only animals of interest in the collection, a dormouse and a mouse being described as new.

*Graphiurus angolensis*, sp. n.

General colour drab-brown mixed with whitish, most of the underfur appearing to be tipped with the latter colour. All the underparts creamy white. Bases of all the body-fur above and below slate-black. Upper lips, cheeks, throat, hands, and feet entirely cream-white. Ears sparingly clothed with short brown hairs. Tail drab-brown, flecked with white, most of the hairs being tipped with white; these pale tips increase in length towards the distal portion, till at the extreme end the hairs may be entirely of the pale colour, forming a cream-white tag. The tail is bushy and flattened beneath; the hairs increase in length, graduating from the body to the tip.

Mammæ 2—2=8, 1 axillary, 1 behind the elbow, 1 on the extreme front of groin, 1 on groin.

Type ♀ in al. 92. 1. 9. 9 British Museum.

Loc. Caconda, Angola.